

Steve Westly California State Controller



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CONTROLLER STEVE WESTLY RECOGNIZED AS RISING STAR IN NATIONAL POLITICS

Sacramento, May 15, 2003 – The Democratic Leadership Council (DLC) has named Steve Westly one of the rising stars of the New Democrat movement. Today, the DLC announced its list of *100 New Democrats to Watch: The Next Generation of Leadership*.

“I am pleased that the DLC can shine a spotlight on 100 of the elected leaders around the country who are using innovative tools to achieve real results and who exemplify the strength of the New Democrat movement,” Al From, DLC Founder and CEO, said.

Controller Westly is recognized for his leadership and finance and business background, including the enormous success of eBay, where he was a senior vice president. Now, as California’s 29th and newest Controller, Westly landed in the middle of a financial crisis that includes a cash flow shortage and a \$38 billion budget deficit. Westly has been tackling those problems, urging lawmakers to overcome a budget stalemate, and calling for long-term changes to prevent future problems.

“California is facing a serious crisis, but we also have an opportunity to improve government. We need to rise to the occasion and look for solutions that will make California better. I hope to bring some of the innovative solutions and fiscal discipline that made eBay successful to Sacramento,” Westly said.

Westly will travel to New York next week to negotiate for \$11 billion in short-term loans to ensure the State can continue to meet its financial obligations.

This second installment of the DLC’s national list of *100 to Watch*, like the first in the summer of 2000, touts 100 New Democrat rising stars from beyond the Beltway and below the rank of the governor. Across the nation, within statehouses and state government offices, in city halls and council chambers, Controller Westly and other New Democrats are solving real problems with practical solutions and championing the beliefs and interests of Americans who work hard and play by the rules. The DLC’s *100 to Watch* officials share a dedication to seeking out a modern means to advance traditional Democratic values.

“The end of Bill Clinton’s presidency in 2001 closed a remarkable chapter in the New Democrat success story,” From explains. “Yet it also marked a new beginning – the passing of the torch to a new generation of New Democrat leaders. ”

For more information on the DLC, please visit its Web site at www.ndol.org.

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